

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 03146 071359Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 /059 W
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R 071230Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5804
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 3146

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, GY
SUBJECT: THE CONTINUING SAGA OF ARNOLD RAMPERSAUD CHAPTER THREE

REF: GEORGETOWN A-18 SECTION 7

1. THE THIRD TRIAL OF ARNOLD RAMPERSAUD, A MEMBER OF THE
OPPOSITION PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY (PPP) CHARGED WITH
THE MURDER OF A TOLL GATE GUARD ON THE NIGHT OF JULY 18,
1974, BEGAN HERE ON NOV. 17. RAMPERSAUD'S LAST RETRAIL
ENDED ON APRIL 21 WITH A HUNG JURY (GEORGETOWN A-18 SECTION 7).
AS THE CASE HAS DRAGGED ON, IT HAS BECOME MORE DEEPLY MIRED
IN GUYANA'S INTERNAL POLITICS AND THE OPPOSITION HAS USED THE
REPEATED TRIALS TO FOCUS INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION ON HUMAN
RIGHTS IN GUYANA.

2. THE TRIAL IS BEING OBSERVED BY AN AMERICAN REPRESENTA-
TIVE OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, DR. DAVID WEISSBRODT,
PROFESSOR OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.
DR. WEISSBRODT RETURNED TO THE U.S. ON NOV. 26, BUT HE
IS EXPECTED TO RETURN FOR THE TRIAL'S FINAL DAYS.
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JOHN BOWDEN, A BRITISH SOLICITOR, IS ALSO DUE IN GUYANA
TO OBSERVE THE TRIAL ON BEHALF OF THE HALDANE SOCIETY OF
SOCIALIST LAWYERS AND THE GENERAL TRANSPORT AND WORKERS UNION
OF THE UK.
BURKE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRIALS
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GEORGE03146
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770455-0780
Format: TEL
From: GEORGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771284/aaaactjn.tel
Line Count: 60
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 GEORGETOWN A-18
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 332484
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE CONTINUING SAGA OF ARNOLD RAMPERSAUD CHAPTER THREE
TAGS: SHUM, GY, (RAMPERSAUD, ARNOLD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ca04160a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009